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U. S. DESTROYER FIGHTS BATTLE IN EUROPEAN WATERS WITH 'SUB'; RESULT KEPT SECRET BY LONDON

FRENCH MISSION THANKS AMERICA FOR GLAD HAND

Envoys, in Farewell Message, Express Appreciation of Reception. WILL CUT VISIT SHORT

Special Mention Made of Generous Contributions Toward Fund for France's War Orphans.

A farewell message to the people of America from the friendly mission of the sister republic, France, soon to depart for home, was given out late yesterday afternoon.

Pressing demands for their presence in France have caused M. Viviani, former Premier of France, and Marshal Joffre to cut short their visit. The date of their departure has not yet been settled.

Their message yesterday is couched in warm words of appreciation for the reception they received here, within the borders of the newest ally.

"The whole mission was deeply gratified by the reception it met with everywhere," it says, "and not only gratified but surprised at the universal enthusiasm shown. The trip was not only a most pleasant one, but excited an intense interest in all the members of the party and increased their great regret in being unable to extend their journey further."

"The welcome was everywhere most enthusiastic, yet varied according to the different places through which we passed, and we shall return with a feeling that the variety of the problems presented to us, that we encountered, the sentiment was everywhere unanimous, even if its manifestations were different."

Regrets Expressed.

"Among many regrets there is one the mission particularly wishes to express, and that is, that in spite of its keen desire to do so, it was utterly unable to visit New Orleans, Richmond, and a few of the Southern States. It had intended to do so, but urgent business recalled it to Washington, and it has had to devote the whole of its time to a discussion of the different problems presented to it. The mission hopes that all the towns which so kindly extended invitations to it will understand that only considerations of an imperative nature could have prevented it from visiting them. It unfortunately had to sacrifice its desires to the common cause and trusts that the same sacrifices will be cheerfully accepted by all those who expected its visit and whom it has, to its great regret, disappointed."

"The reception everywhere accorded the mission in the Middle West was beyond words fervent and touched us all deeply. It was clear even to a superficial observer that everywhere the citizens of the different towns it passed through were wholeheartedly in sympathy with the mission and all united in the common cause. It would be invidious to pick out any special region or town as having manifested its feeling in a more charming way than any other, for everywhere from Washington to Chicago, from Kansas City and St. Louis to Springfield and Columbus, from Columbus to Indianapolis, from Philadelphia and New York to Boston and Baltimore, every kind of ingenious manifestation of good will was showered upon the mission. The memory that the mission will take away of its hurried trip through to make a part of the United States will glow in the recollection of all."

Magnificent Welcome.

"France already knows what a magnificent welcome was accorded us everywhere, but we hope on our return to

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO.

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First Clash Since America Entered War Is Announced By the British Admiralty

BULLETIN.

London, May 16.—A battle between an American destroyer and a German submarine has been fought in European waters, the admiralty announced tonight.

The result of the conflict was not made public. The battle marked the entrance of American battleships in the European war.

The announcement of the arrival of the American destroyers in European waters was made today.

The International News Service on May 10 carried an exclusive report from Norfolk saying an American torpedo boat had been hit by a German submarine.

The report is said to have originated from an American battleship which had picked up a wireless.

Naval officers at the Norfolk Navy Yard and at the Navy Department at Washington stated they had no knowledge of the report.

NAVY WITHOUT WORD YET.

Navy Department officials, when informed at midnight that the British admiralty had announced there had been a battle between an American destroyer and a German submarine, said they had received no such information.

They expressed keen interest in the report of the engagement and were anxious to know the general location of the place of battle.

They then said that they had received no news of the destroyer fleet since it had gone to the war zone.

Plenary Powers Delegated To Government of Russia

(By the International News Service.)

Petrograd, May 16.—Prof. Paul N. Milukoff, the entente's "strong man" in Russia, today lost his two months' battle with A. F. Kerensky, the Socialist advocate of "open diplomacy" and early general peace.

Milukoff resigned from the office of foreign minister in the provisional government. Kerensky succeeded in placing into that office his friend and party comrade, Tereshchenko, hitherto minister of finance. Then Kerensky himself "accepted" the ministry of war and marine, succeeding Gutchkov.

For weeks the dramatic fight between the two men, who were the chief pilots in the March revolution, had grown more and more bitter. It reached its climax when the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates handed its ultimatum to the provisional government, saying it would consent to a coalition ministry only if Milukoff relinquished the foreign office.

To make possible a coalition government, seemingly the only solution of Russia's chaotic situation, Milukoff finally sacrificed himself for the sake of unity. The results were quick, and telling. Late this evening it was officially announced that the government, the executive committee of the Duma, and the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates had agreed on these three cardinal points:

1. Unity of the entente fronts.

2. Full confidence of the revolutionary democracy in the reconstructed cabinet.

3. Plenary powers for the government.

Thus, for the first time since the overthrow of Czarism, a basis has been formulated for an understanding between the three bodies in whose hands lie the destiny of Russia.

Immediately after this news was officially given out, it became known that Milukoff had been offered and will accept the ministry of public instruction. The victory of Kerensky and through him of the council is not absolute. The cabinet shift, however, is looked upon as the entering wedge in the assertion of the council's demands. These include mainly:

1. Renunciation by Russia of all aims of conquest, annexation and indemnity as the basic principle for a general, not separate, peace.

2. "Full publicity" of all foreign treaties and agreements.

The bulk of the provisional government, led by Milukoff, has been unequally opposed to both these demands. Now that Milukoff has laid down the reins of Russia's foreign policy and a youthful radical Socialist has been put into his office, the council hopes to force their fulfillment.

Moreover, by a shrewd stroke Kerensky placed himself into the office that controls the country's armed forces. Thus he removed the danger of his opponents, using the club as a club, and placed himself in a position where he himself can use it.

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AMERICAN FLOTILLA AT FRONT ASSISTING ENTENTE WARSHIPS IN HUNT FOR TEUTON U-BOATS

SIMS' WARSHIPS OF BIG SERVICE, BRITAIN STATES

Vessels Arrived at Queens-town and Then Proceeded to Patrol Zones.

GREETINGS EXCHANGED

Grand Fleet Rejoices Over Co-operation of American Navy in Keeping Seas Free.

(By the International News Service.)

London, May 16.—The British admiralty officially announced today that an American torpedo boat destroyer flotilla is now "at the front," somewhere in European waters.

The admiralty statement says: "A United States destroyer flotilla has arrived to co-operate with our naval forces."

"The American destroyers arrived at Queenstown."

"Rear Admiral Sims, U. S. N., is in daily touch with the chief of staff."

"The services the United States vessels are rendering the allies is of the greatest value and is deeply appreciated."

Greetings were exchanged between Admiral Sir David Beatty, commander of the British Grand Fleet, and Admiral Henry T. Mayo, commander of the American Atlantic fleet.

The message of Admiral Beatty read: "The grand fleet rejoices that the Atlantic fleet now shares the task of preserving the liberties of the world and maintaining the chivalry of the seas."

Admiral Mayo, in his reply, said: "The Atlantic fleet shares your message and welcomes the opportunity to work with the British for the freedom of the seas."

American Vessels Cheered.

Soon after the American squadron arrived at the English port, it put to sea again. Several hundred persons, carrying American flags, cheered the American vessels. Greetings were exchanged between the American and British senior officers. United States Consul Frost, of Queenstown, was among those who was on hand to greet the American vessels.

The commander of the British flotilla was one of the first to congratulate the American officers on their safe voyage.

"When will you be ready for business," he asked after the ceremonies were over.

"At once," the American commander replied. "We made preparations on the way over, and that is why we are ready now."

One of the destroyers performed war duty on the coast, picking up and escorting through the danger zone a large Atlantic liner.

The British passengers on board sent a message of greeting to the commander of the destroyer, expressing their "keen appreciation of this practical co-operation between the government and peoples of the United States and the British empire."

Petain Wants U. S. Army In France Immediately

Paris, May 16.—A plea for the United States to send an army to France immediately was issued today by Gen. Petain, the famous soldier who yesterday became commander-in-chief of all the French armies in the field.

"What is imperative now is men," said Gen. Petain. "What France needs most is men—infantry. We fully believe that of all the nations the United States can do most in the least time. What we look to America for is quick action in order to relieve the nations which have already suffered so much. We look to America also to see big things done."

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U-Boat Toll for Week Lowest in Five Weeks

(By International News Service)

London, May 16.—The number of boats sent to the bottom during the week ended last Sunday constituted the lowest total of British vessels of more than 1,600 tons in five weeks. Only eighteen ships of that category were sunk, as against twenty-four, thirty-eight, forty, and nineteen, respectively, in the preceding four weeks.

Only five British ships of less than 1,600 tons were sunk in the past week, which is also the smallest toll within five weeks, the last low watermark having been two, sunk in the week ended April 8.

A list of British shipping losses as officially reported in London since February 1, when unrestricted U-boat warfare went into effect, follows:

| | Over 1,600 tons. | Under 1,600 tons. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| First three days of February..... | 5 | 3 |
| Week ended Feb. 10..... | 17 | 10 |
| Week ended Feb. 17..... | 22 | 17 |
| Week ended Mar. 24..... | 40 | 24 |
| Week ended Mar. 31..... | 14 | 9 |
| Week ended Apr. 7..... | 18 | 13 |
| Week ended Apr. 14..... | 19 | 13 |
| Week ended Apr. 21..... | 19 | 13 |
| Week ended Apr. 28..... | 13 | 13 |
| Week ended May 5..... | 26 | 22 |
| Week ended May 12..... | 18 | 5 |
| Totals..... | 217 | 187 |

(Shipping vessels, trawlers and craft under 100 tons are not included in this list.)

Ambassador Penfield in U. S.; Conveyed by French Warship

New York, May 16.—Conveyed by a French destroyer, the Ambassador Penfield, U. S. Ambassador to Austria, arrived at an American port today aboard a French steamer.

"The steamer was attended by the naval vessel until we were well into the Atlantic," said Mr. Penfield. "The captain told me that it was fortunate, as the waters near the port from which the ship sailed were infested with submarines."

Government Will Prosecute Speculators in Food Prices

Pupils, Sell Junk, Redfield Advises

Children are asked to go into the rag, iron, and paper business by Secretary of Commerce Redfield.

He recommended that in every city and town an organization be formed to systematize the collection of junk by children in order to raise funds for war relief work.

LODGE SCORES SPEED-UP IDEA

Resents Being Called Slacker for Refusing to Rush Through War Bills.

Senators do not want to be called slackers. That is what Senator Lodge emphatically declared yesterday afternoon on the floor of the Upper House.

He voiced in no uncertain terms his objection to being so criticized because he with other Senators refused to rush through war legislation without due inspection.

"There hasn't been one instant of needless delay since April 14 to my knowledge. Congress is not going to be stampeded into passing bills, carrying such huge appropriations, perhaps some unconstitutional, because some one who has recently got control of a bureau thinks unless he has unlimited power, the country is in danger," said Senator Lodge in his most incisive tones.

Senators Fall and Poindexter took the same stand against the administration. The former of these disclosed the nature of the debate that has been going on all day behind closed doors, when he said: "I will not vote for this appropriation until this board exercises its legal duty and informs Congress of what it has been doing."

Raps Shipping Board.

The board he alluded to was the Shipping Board. Early in the day when the great bill carrying a war budget of \$3,350,000,000 was brought up, Senator Martin moved that it be discussed in secret session. The first appropriation in it was \$500,000 for the Shipping Board.

It was learned that during the secret session the board was criticized bitterly because the Senate was asked to make the appropriation without knowledge of the progress of the body. As a matter of fact, the appropriation was left hanging.

U. S. DESTROYERS SAIL NORTH SEA IN "SUB" SEARCH

Vessels, Under Rear Admiral Sims, Have Been Patrolling European Waters Since May 4.

Three thousand miles from home, out in the gray waters of the Atlantic and the North Sea, a fleet of American destroyers is hunting down German submarines.

The Stars and Stripes have been carried across the ocean. The American navy has taken its place beside the fleets of the other free nations in the fight against that ruthlessness which sends women and children without a word of warning to death at the bottom of the sea.

DANIELS MAKES ANNOUNCEMENT.

Official admission that American warships have joined the ranks of the allied navies in the search for submarines in those very waters which the submarines have made their hunting ground was made by Secretary of the Navy Daniels last night.

The destroyer flotilla is under command of Rear Admiral William S. Sims, one of the most expert officers of the navy. Its personnel was selected with the utmost care. When it left American shores late in April it carried with it the best the navy had.

It had been known in Washington for several weeks that American destroyers were co-operating with the British and French navies in European waters. For military reasons the newspapers agreed to withhold the news under the voluntary censorship.

In War Zone Since May 4.

It was not until the British admiralty, apparently for the effect the announcement would have on the morale of the British armies and people, made public the fact that Old Glory was flying beside the Tri-Color and Union Jack out in the waters which the Germans have made a graveyard of the merchant navies, that the government here allowed the news to be made public.

That the American destroyers have been engaged in the war zone since May 4 without casualties of any sort was the gist of the Navy Department's announcement last night. The statement said:

"United States naval vessels have been operating with allied naval forces in European waters since May 4. A number of destroyers sailed from American ports in the latter part of April, and all arrived at their destination without accident or delay of any kind."

"It has been the purpose of the United States navy to give the largest measure of assistance to the other countries at war with Germany that is consistent with full and complete protection of our own coasts and territorial waters. The Navy Department has received no reports that

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Department of Justice Decides to Press Cases—Indictments May Be Returned Within Few Days.

Federal grand jury indictments of speculators in food prices in several large centers, including grain and produce markets, will be returned, probably within a few days, it was determined last night by Attorney General Gregory following an all-day conference with George W. Anderson of Boston, and Robert W. Childs, of Chicago, the government's special investigators into price boosting and grain and produce market manipulating.

Conclusive evidence showing price fixing in the handling of foodstuffs, sufficient to warrant indictments in several cities, were laid before the Attorney General. The department last night withheld information as to the cities in which indictments may be expected, the number of individuals likely to be involved. It is known, however, that there are numerous cases which the government will prosecute immediately. The first cases probably will be pressed in Chicago and Boston.

Closed Several Hours.

District Attorney Anderson, in general charge of the high-cost-of-living investigation, and Special Assistant Childs, in charge of the probe into conditions in the grain and produce markets, were closed several hours with Assistant Attorney General Todd, and later the three went over the masses of reports with the Attorney General and prepared a schedule of the cases to be pressed.

Attorney General Gregory would not discuss the cases beyond admitting that evidence collected would justify indictments. "The cases relate to the food situation," the Attorney General said. "I am not an authority on the food situation of the country, but I am led to believe from the reports submitted that there is much hysteria occasioned by reports of food shortage."

Mr. Gregory said he believed if the President is given authority by Congress to direct freight shipments and give priority to certain classes of freight, the food situation would be materially improved.

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Births, Marriages and Deaths.

The Washington Herald is printing daily notices of births, marriages, and deaths among the people of Washington.

These notices appear today on page 8.